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# AMAZING ADVENTURES™

FEATURING



Featuring: THE  
PULSE-POUNDING POWER  
OF IRON MAN!

THE MURDEROUS  
MENACE OF...  
QUASIMODO!

THE  
HUNT IS  
ON--FOR THE  
BEAST!



## BEHIND THE MASK...A MONSTER!



# THE BLUDGEONING BEAST!™

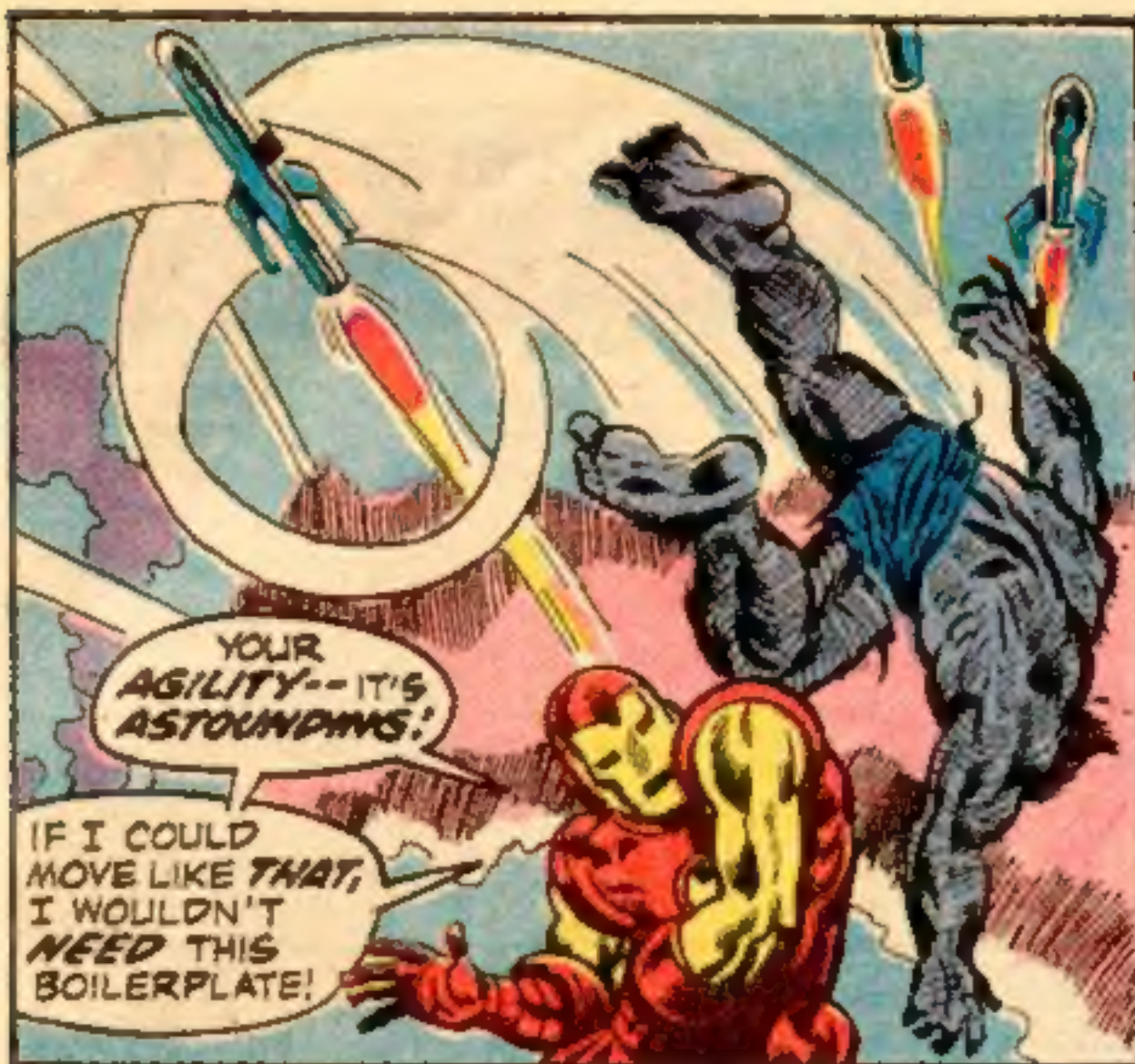


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YOUR AGILITY--IT'S ASTOUNDING!

IF I COULD MOVE LIKE THAT, I WOULDN'T NEED THIS BOILERPLATE!



SOFT SOAP IS NOT REQUIRED, I.M.! WE WERE ENEMIES BEFORE--

--AND THOUGH THEY'VE TURNED OFF THE MISSILES, TIMES DON'T SEEM TO HAVE CHANGED!

YOU'RE WRONG, BEAST.

HOLD IT, MEN.



IT'S OKAY, IRON MAN! I CAN SEE HE'S RUNNIN' RINGS AROUND YOU--

**BLAM!**

--BUT I'LL GET HIM!



YOU STUPID--! YOU'VE SHOT HIM!

**ARRGHH!**



UHHH!... I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT YOU'D REMEMBER MY MANIC METABOLISM--

--HOW I RECOVER FROM WOUNDS ALMOST INSTANTLY!

HE'S... NOT HURT!



BEAST--YOU'RE A BRAVE MAN TO RUSH IN HERE LIKE THAT. I'LL HELP ANY WAY I CAN.

BUT ALL I KNOW IS THAT WE WERE FIGHTING--WHEN YOU SUDDENLY WENT INTO A TRANCE...

...AND THEN RAN OFF YELLING I WAS DEAD.

I DIDN'T PURSUE YOU, BECAUSE I COULD SEE YOU WERE A MAN WITH PROBLEMS-- PROBLEMS YOU HAD TO SOLVE YOURSELF.

DOES THIS HELP SOLVE THEM?



NO--AND I'M NOT EVEN CLOSE.

BUT YOU JUST CALLED ME A MAN TWICE--AND THAT HELPS.

IF IT MEANS ANYTHING, I CALL YOU--FRIEND.

'BYE.





HIGGINS--DRAW YOUR **PAY** AND GET OUT OF MY **SIGHT!**



**S.I.** DOESN'T **NEED** A **TRIGGER-HAPPY** **GUARD.**

**VIOLENCE IS A LAST RESORT--ONE YOU DON'T USE WITHOUT THINKING!**

--AND IF YOU **THINK**, YOU CAN FIND **ANOTHER** **WAY...!**



**NIGHT--AND FOG NUZZLES BUILDINGS, BOSS--AND BEASTS...**

I SHOULD HAVE **SEEN** IT. **KILLING IRON MAN WAS AN ILLUSION--**

--CONJURED BY **MASTER-MIND** TO MAKE ME JOIN THE **BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS.\***

\*LAST ISH.--ROY.



BUT MY **X-MEN** **TRAINING** **KEPT ME HONEST--!**

I WONDER IF THAT MAKES ME A **HERO--** OR A **GOOD STUDENT?**

OOOPS--**HELLO, YOUNG LOVERS.** SORRY TO GET IN YOUR **MOON-LIGHT.**



LOVERS... **LINDA: THE GIRL I LOVE.**

BUT WHAT WAS IT **STARK'S GIRL FRIEND** SAID-- ABOUT **LINDA** BEING...**EVIL...?**



AHHH--THAT'S **CRAZY TALK.** I KNOW MY **GIRL** LIKE I KNOW MY **APARTMENT!**

--NEITHER OF WHICH I'VE **SEEN** FOR A WHILE.



BUT **LINDA** DOESN'T **KNOW ME--** DOESN'T **KNOW** HOW I HAVE TO **KEEP MY MIRRORS COVERED--**

--TO **KEEP FROM SEEING MYSELF.**



SHE DOESN'T **KNOW--HER BOY FRIEND** IS AN **ANIMAL.**

**HA! SOUNDS LIKE SOME PRUDISH MOTHER'S WARNINGS TO HER DAUGHTER--**

"YOUR **BOY FRIEND'S** AN **ANIMAL.**"

HA...

**BLZZ BLZZ**





OH, COME *ON!* CAN'T I RELAX FOR EVEN A *MINUTE?*

YES? WHO IS IT?



HANK? OH, *HANK*-- IT'S *LINDA*! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL *OVER* FOR YOU!

I'LL BE RIGHT *UP!*

UH--WELL...  
UH...OKAY...



OH MY *LORD*-- THERE WAS NOTHING *ELSE* I COULD SAY! SHE'D BE *MORE* SUSPICIOUS IN THE LONG RUN IF I DIDN'T LET HER *IN*.

BUT *THIS* IS GOING TO CALL FOR SOME *VERY* FANCY FOOTWORK!



THE *BULK* OF MY DISGUISE-- I LEFT IT AT *BRAND*, JUST BEFORE *IRON MAN'S* ATTACK!

I'VE GOT NO "*HANDS*"; NO *STRAPS*-- AND THIS "*HEAD*" IS ONE I *REJECTED* WHEN THE NECK TORE!



BUT THERE'S NO *HELP* FOR IT!

MAYBE-- MAYBE I CAN PRETEND TO BE *SICK*--!

YES! IF I'M *SICK*, I CAN WEAR A *SCARF*, TO COVER THE HOLE!

--AND IF I KEEP MY *HANDS* IN MY *POCKETS*--!



PRAY, HANK-- PRAY THIS GRIMCRACK DECEPTION *HOLDS UP!*

PRAY LIKE A *FIEND!!*





HANK! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU!

I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED!



MR. GRANT AND CAPTAIN BAXTER SAID THAT TERRIBLE BEAST-THING MIGHT HAVE HURT YOU!

THEY CAME TO LOOK FOR YOU--AND YOU WERE GONE!

OH, HANK--I COULDN'T HAVE STOOD IT IF YOU WERE IN TROUBLE!



NO, I'M...I'M FINE.

WELL, ACTUALLY, I DO HAVE A PRETTY BAD COLD-- BUT THERE'S NO BEAST AROUND HERE.



YOU POOR BABY. I KNOW JUST WHAT TO DO FOR COLDS.

HERE--LET'S GET YOU OUT OF THAT ROBE, AND I'LL MASSAGE MEDICATION ALL OVER YOUR TUMMY.

--AND I'LL TOSS IN A KISS-- AS AN INCENTIVE TO GET WELL FAST!



NO! NO! I'M TOO CONTAGIOUS!

YOU'LL CATCH IT, TOO! KEEP AWAY!



WELL...ALL RIGHT. I'LL... LEAVE THEN.

NO-- NOTHING...

IS THERE ANYTHING--?

NOTHING...

AT...

ALL...

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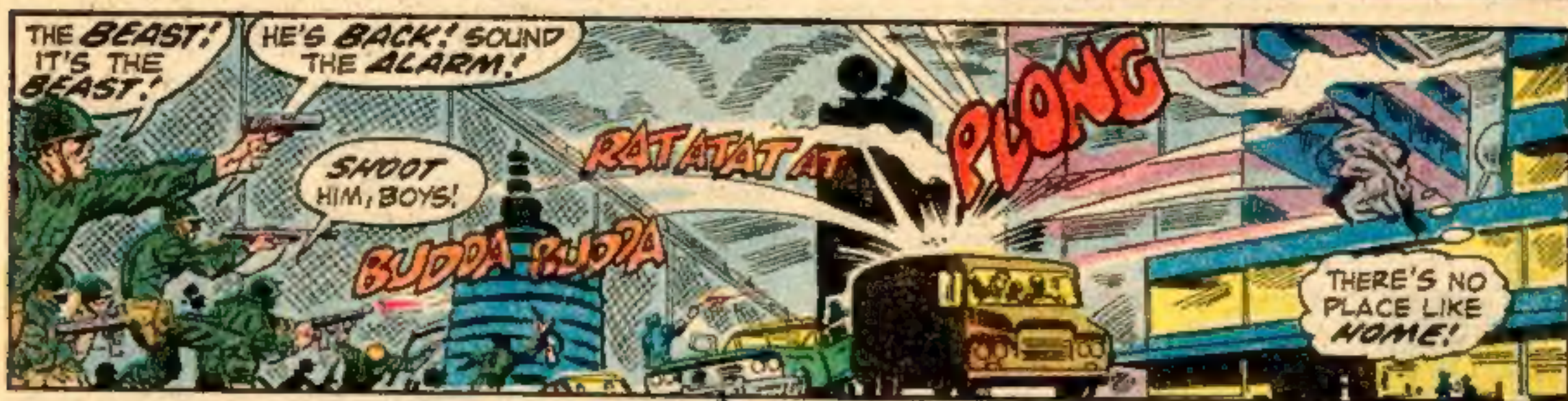




RAGING, SNARLING-- NOT UNLIKE A SAVAGE BEAST-- HANK MCCOY RIPS HIS MASK TO SHREDS IN A PAROXYSM OF NAKED FEROCITY.















WHO ARE YOU TO **ASK**, CAPTAIN?

I'M **BAXTER** U.S. AIR FORCE SECURITY-- THAT'S WHO.

BLAST IT, HOW CAN YOU BE SO **CALM**?



**LISTEN**, MCCOY, WE THOUGHT THAT SO-CALLED **BEAST** HAD MADE OFF WITH YOU. WE WERE VERY **CONCERNED** ABOUT YOUR **WELFARE**. WE--

GOOD EVENING MRS. **BAXTER**. **TROUBLE**?



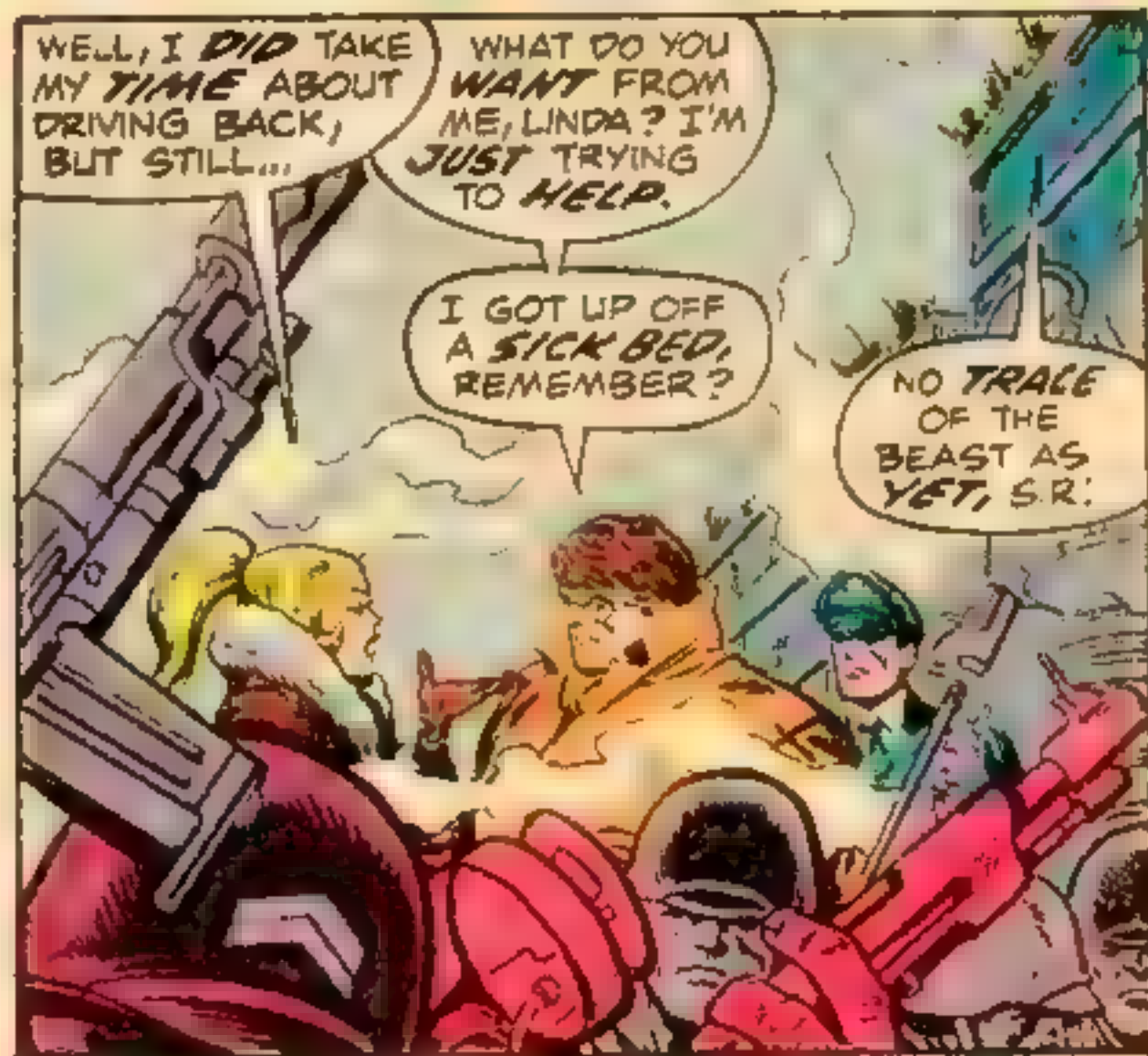
**HANK**?! HOW CAN YOU BE HERE?

I LEFT YOU AT YOUR **APARTMENT** NOT MORE THAN **HALF AN HOUR** AGO

OH MY **SAINTED AUNT**! JUST WHAT I NEEDED!

UMMM... I... YOU SAID PEOPLE WERE **LOOKING** FOR ME, SO I WANTED TO LET THEM KNOW WHERE I **WAS**.

RIGHT AFTER YOU **LEFT**, I **BUNDLED** UP AND **HURRIED** OVER.



WELL, I **DID** TAKE MY **TIME** ABOUT **DRIVING** BACK, BUT STILL...

WHAT DO YOU **WANT** FROM ME, **LINDA**? I'M JUST TRYING TO **HELP**.

I GOT UP OFF A **SICK BED**, REMEMBER?

NO **TRACE** OF THE **BEAST** AS **YET**, S.R.

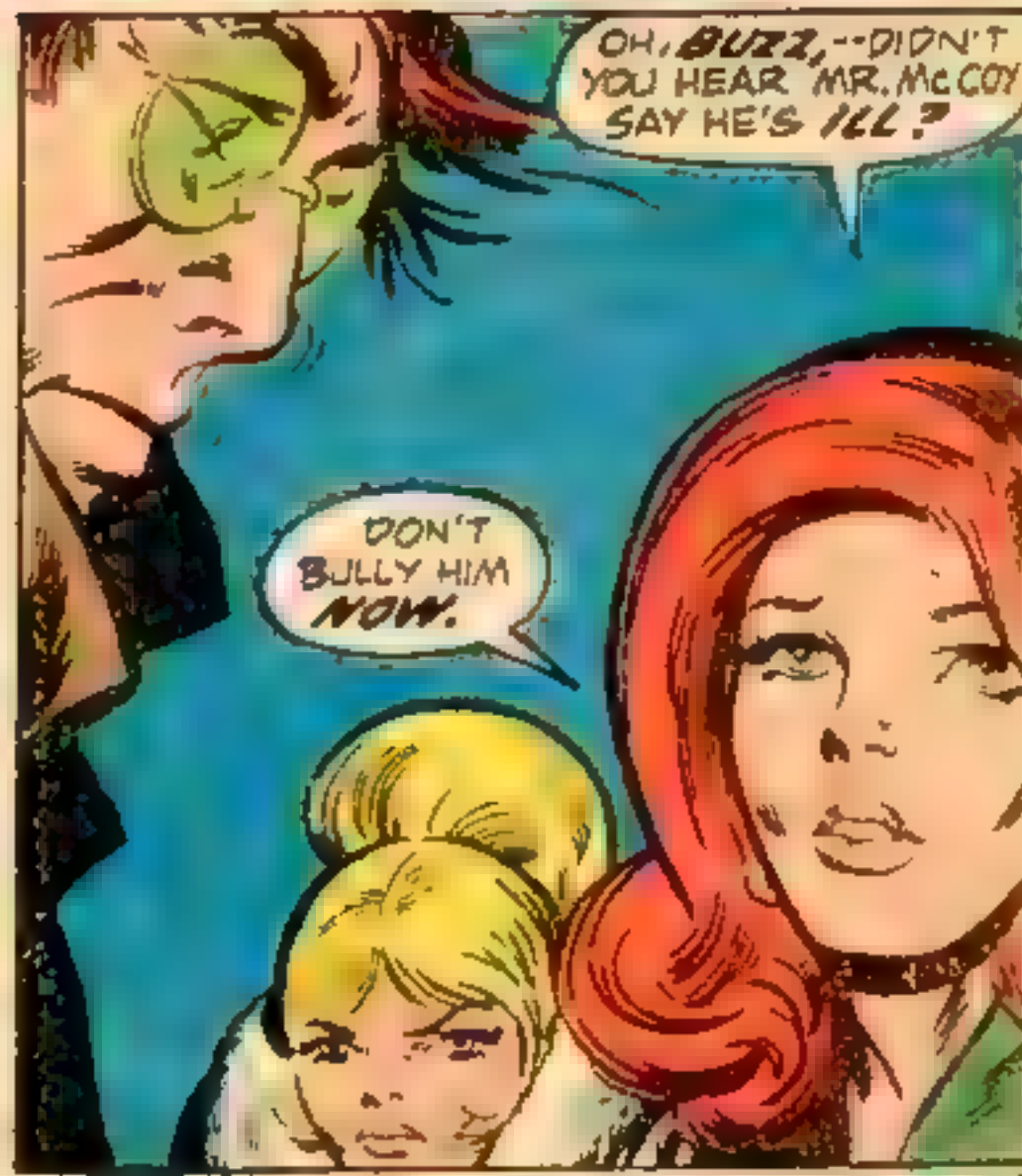


IF ALL THIS **ACTIVITY** IS TO CATCH THAT **MONSTER**, CAPTAIN, DON'T YOU THINK YOU'D BETTER GET **BACK** TO IT?

I'M NOT SO **SURE**, MCCOY.

I WAS **WORRIED** ABOUT YOU BEFORE, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING **FUNNY** GOING ON HERE.

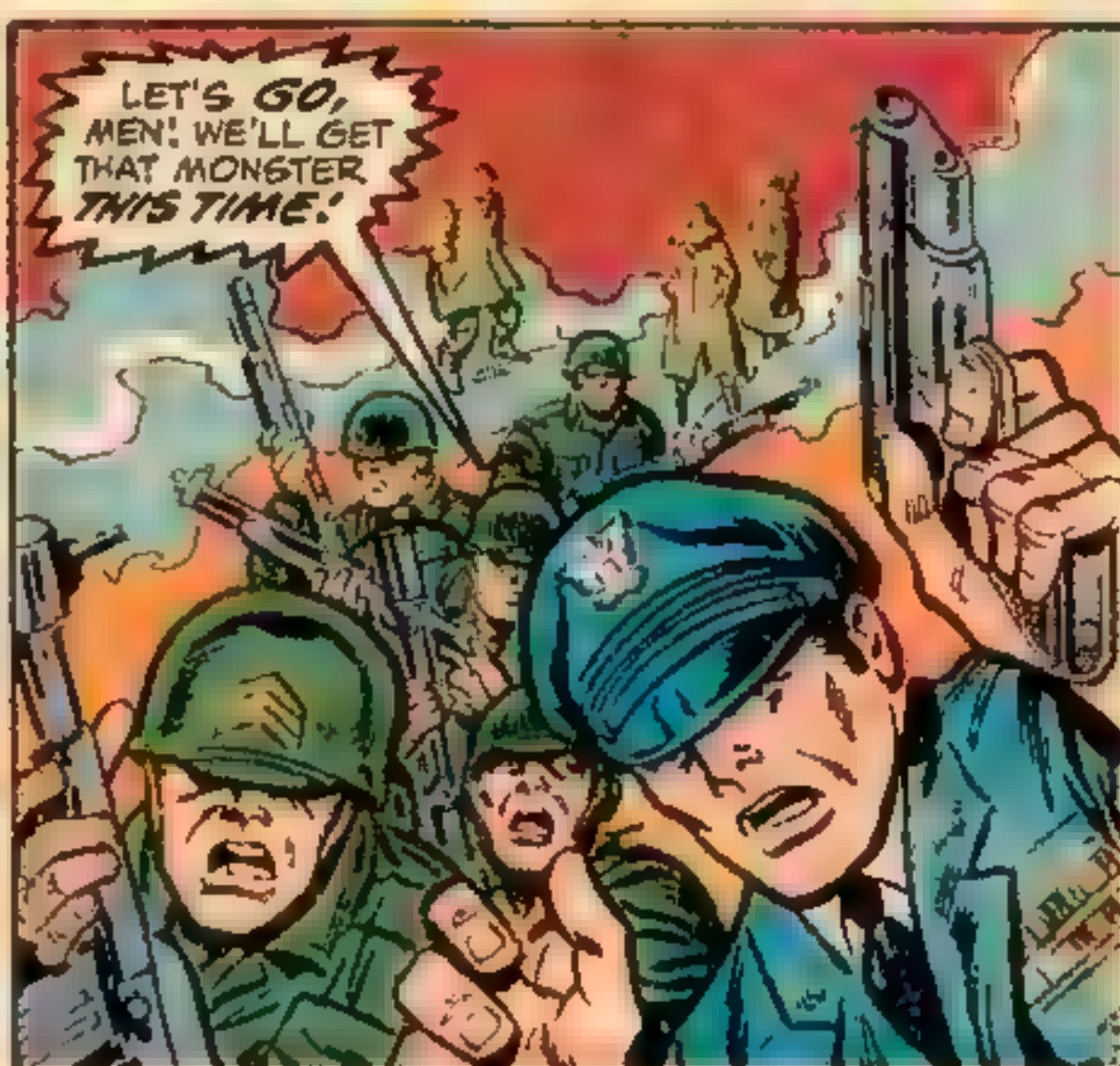
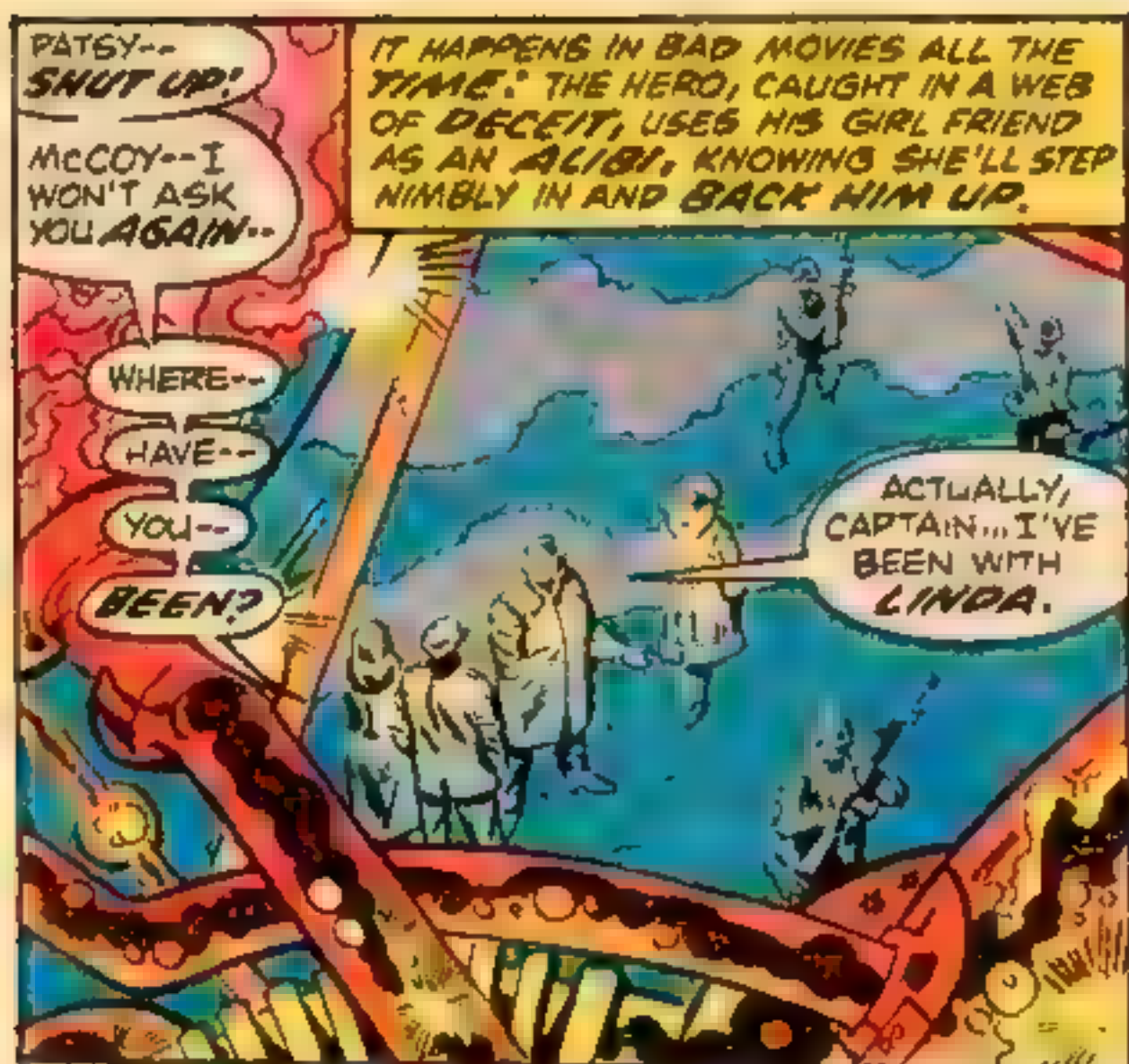
I'VE GOT SOME **QUESTIONS** FOR YOU, MISTER!



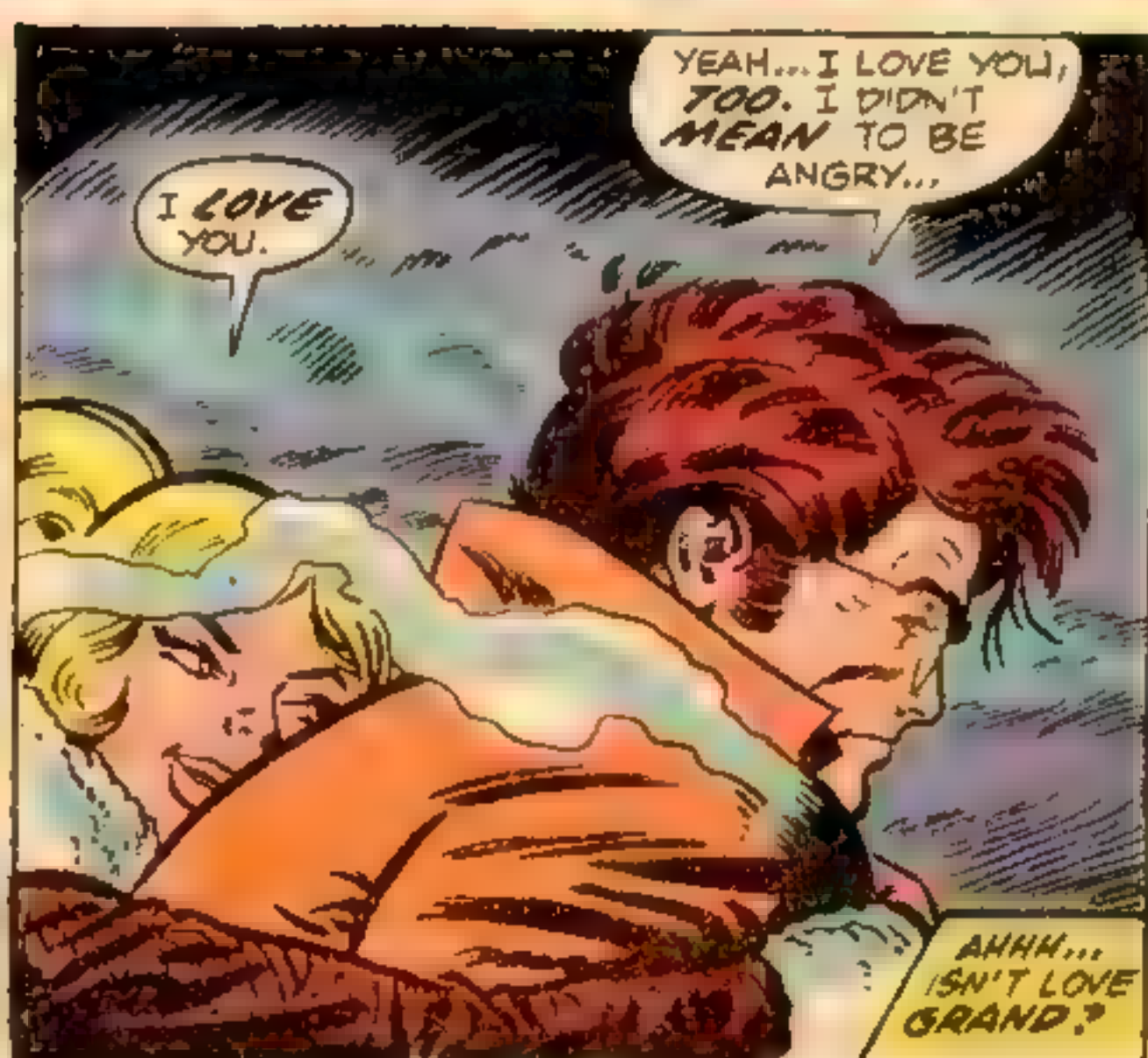
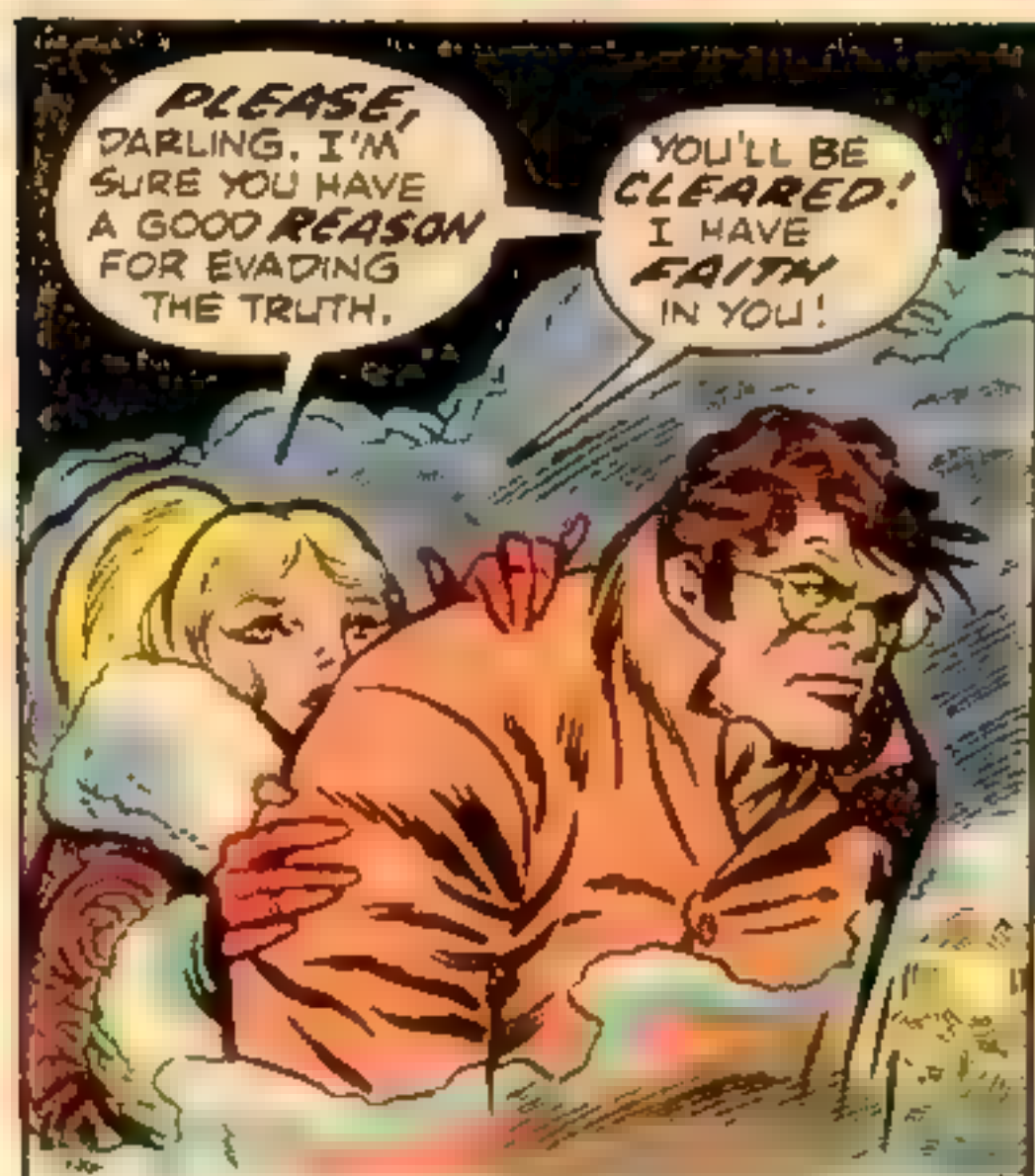
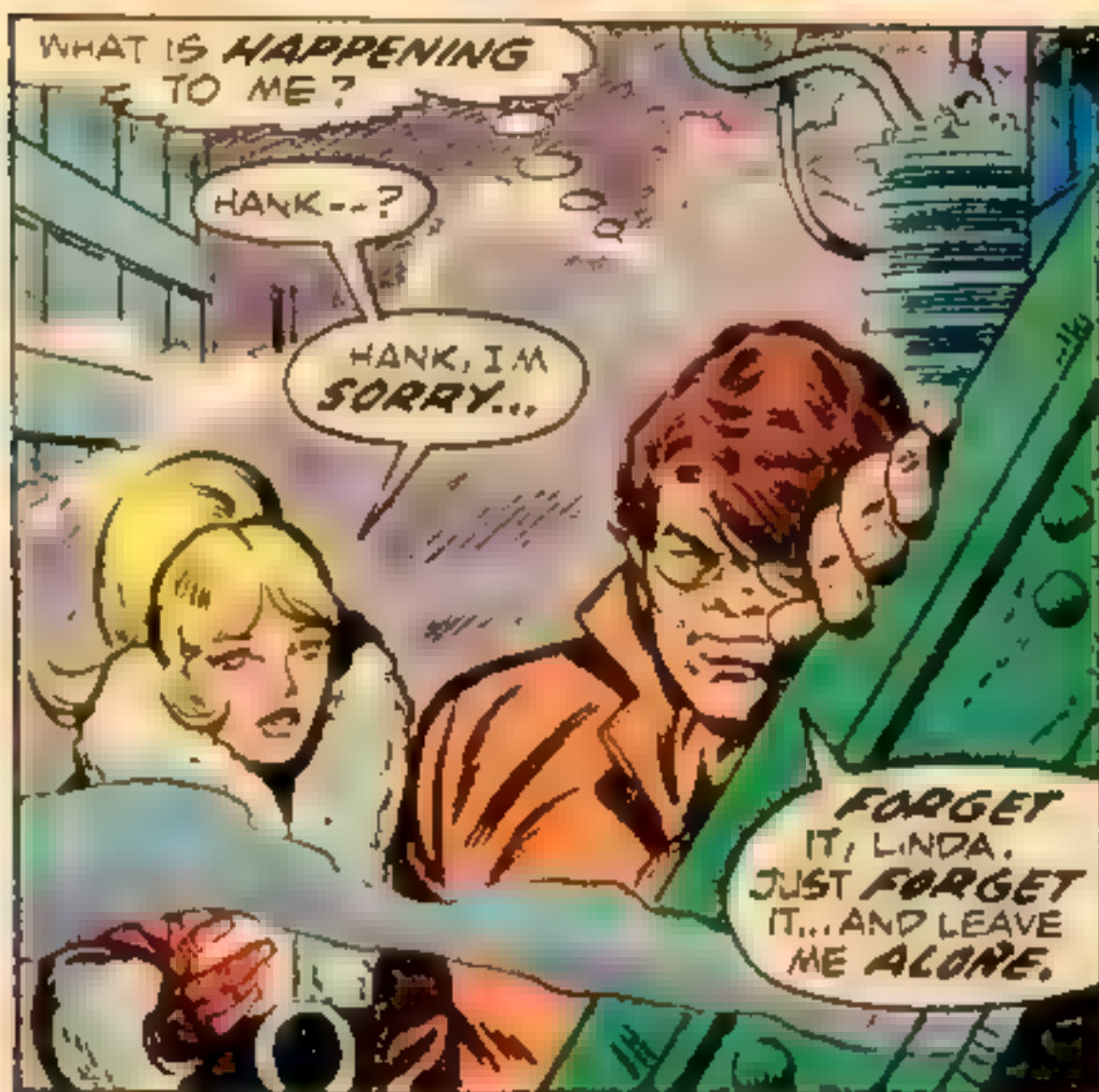
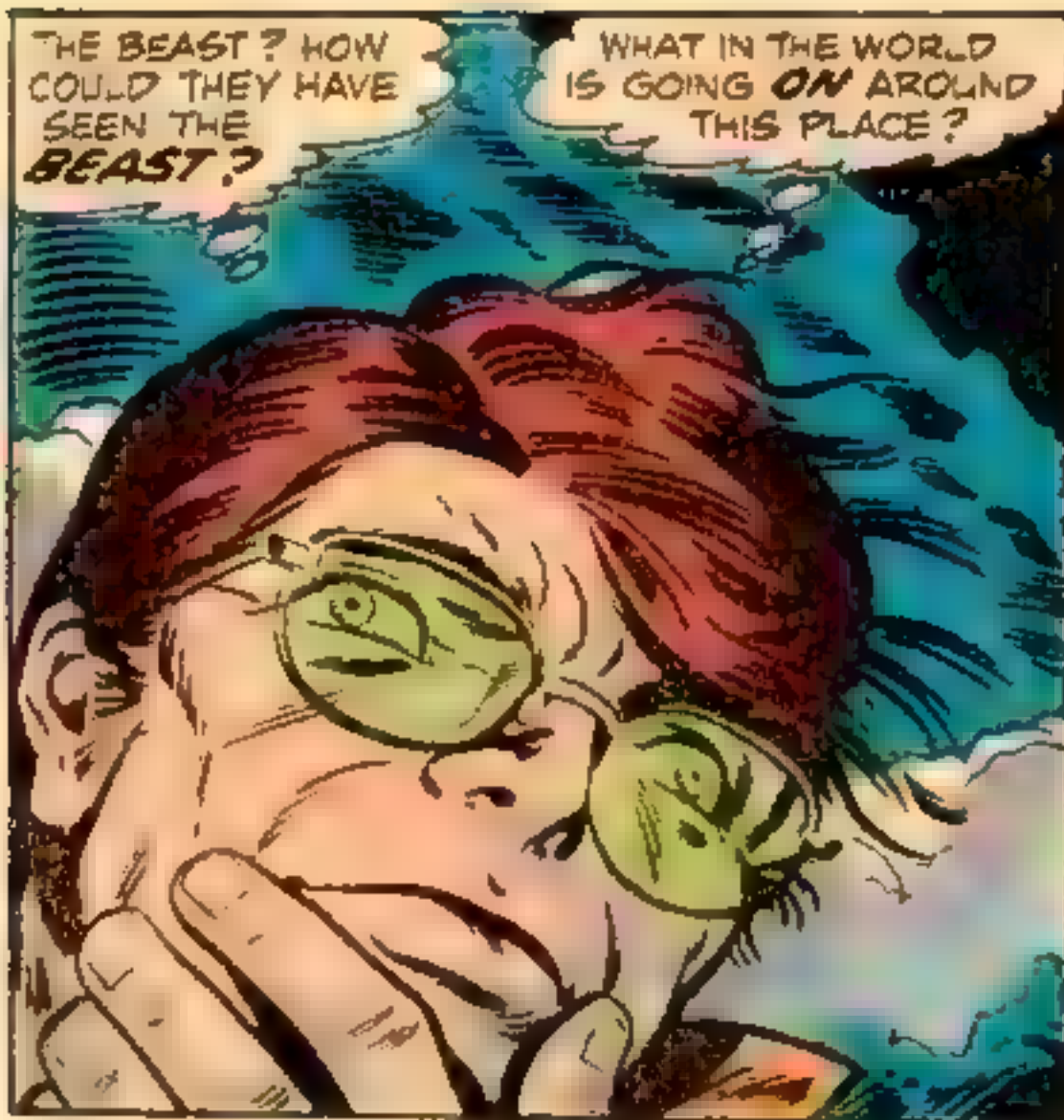
OH, **BUZZ**--DIDN'T YOU HEAR MR. MCCOY SAY HE'S **ILL**?

DON'T **BULLY** HIM **NOW**.



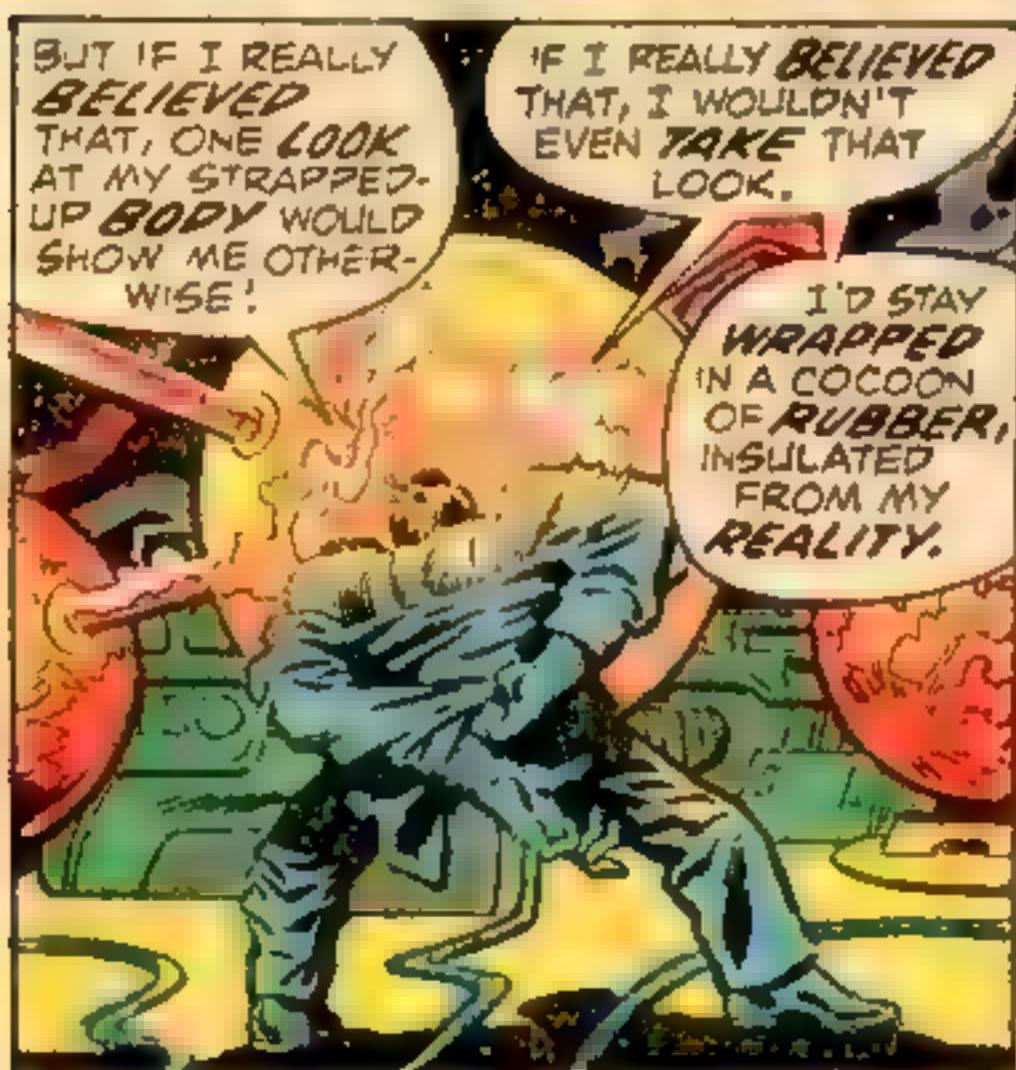
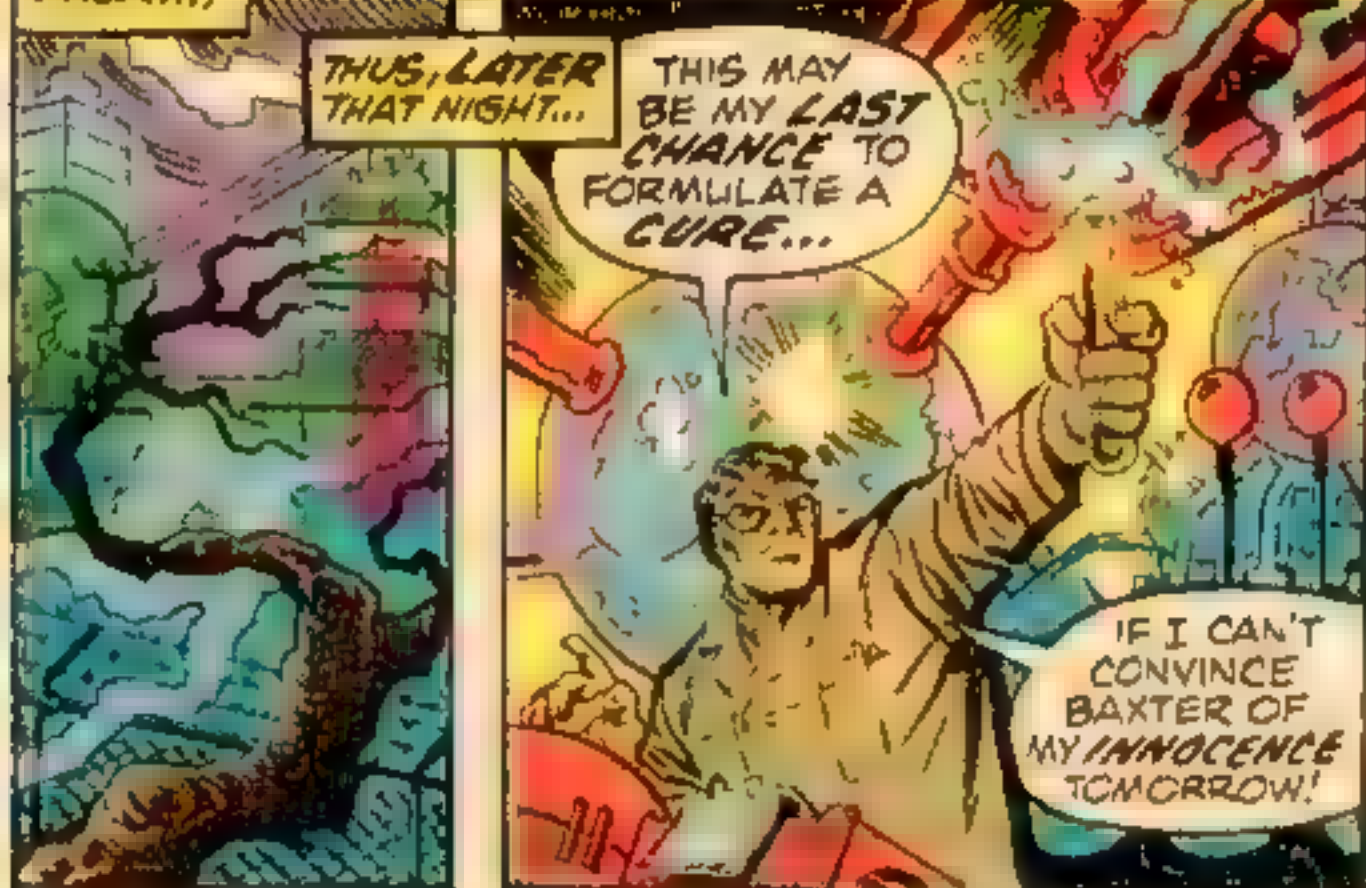




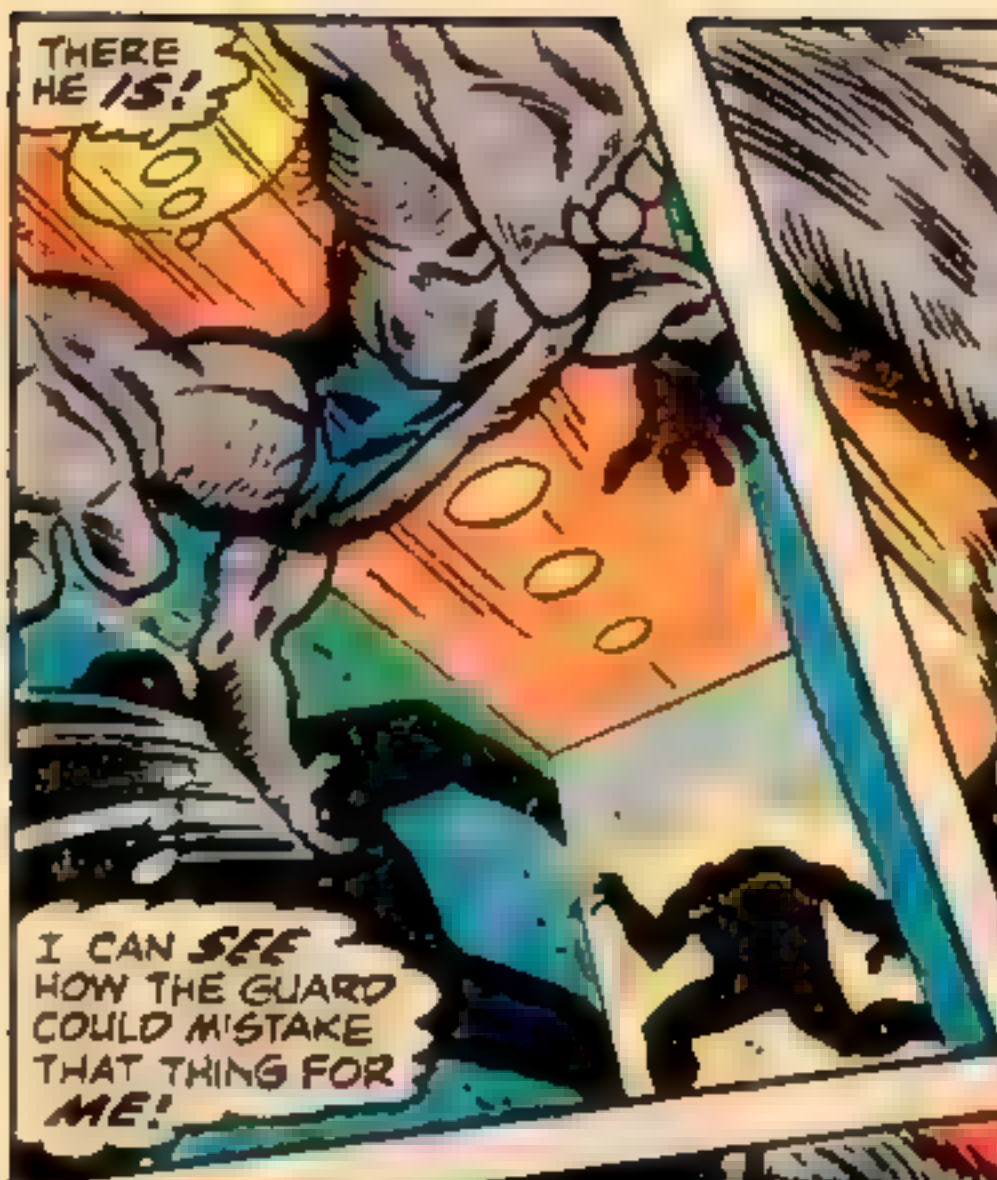




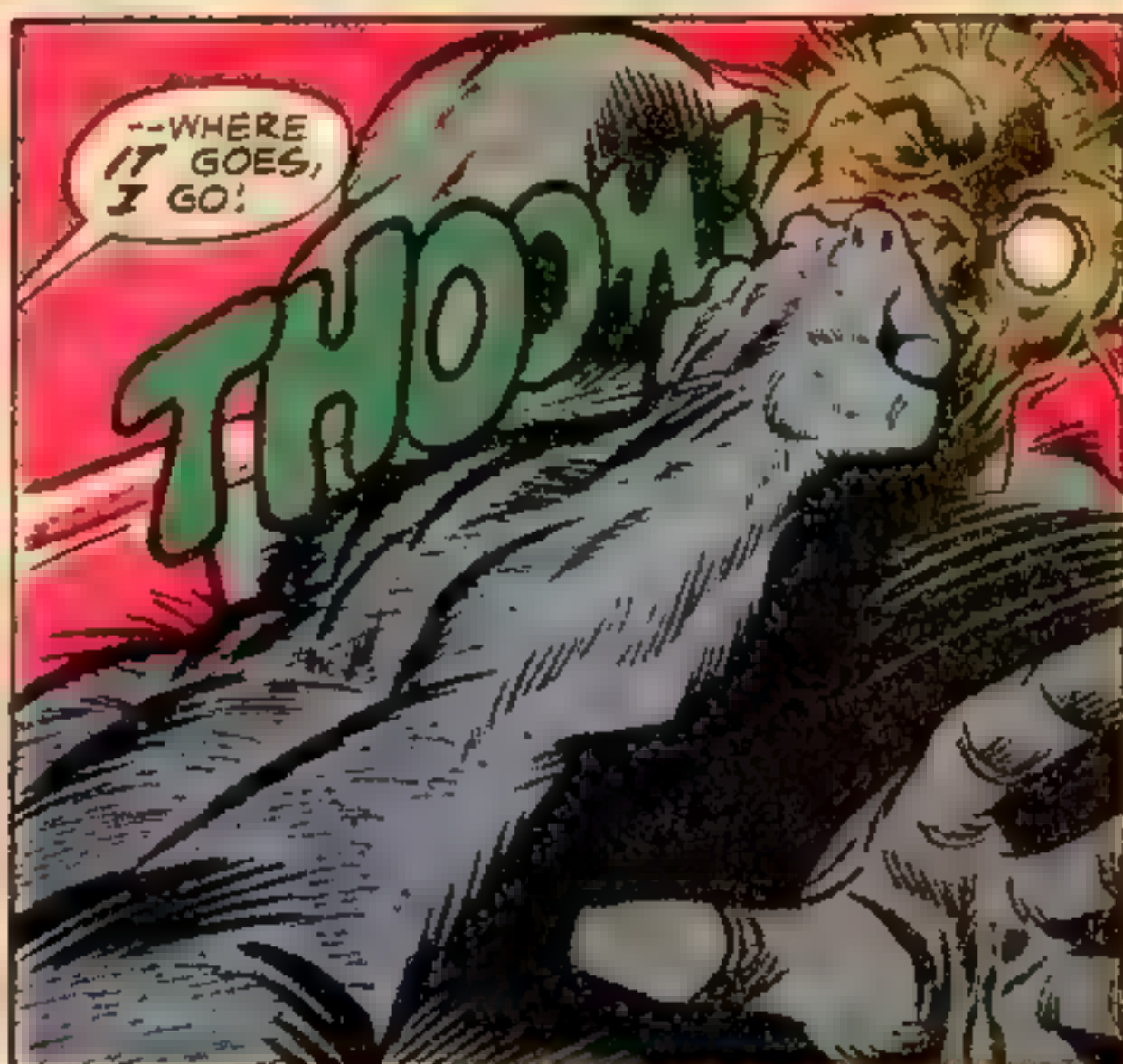
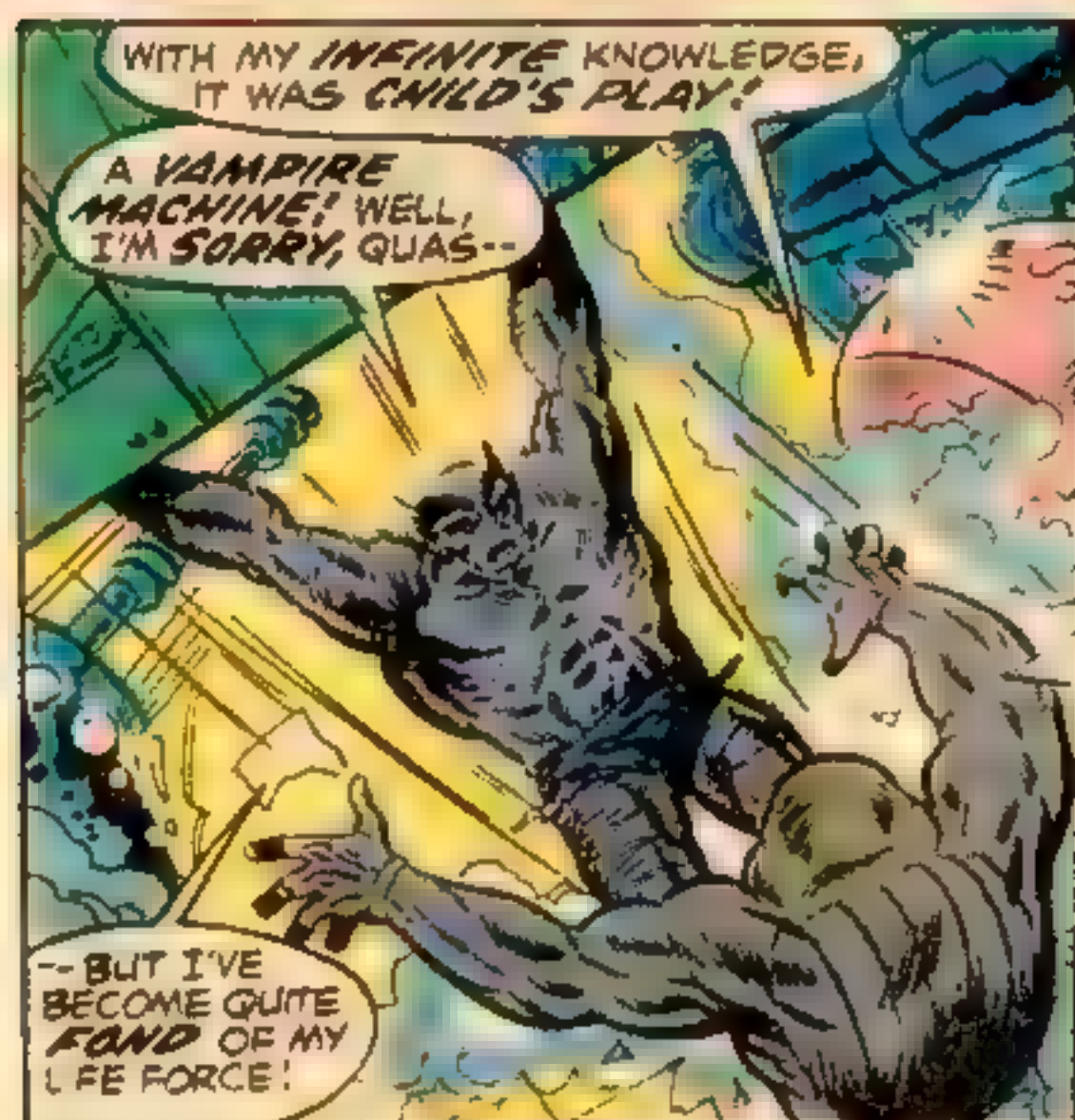
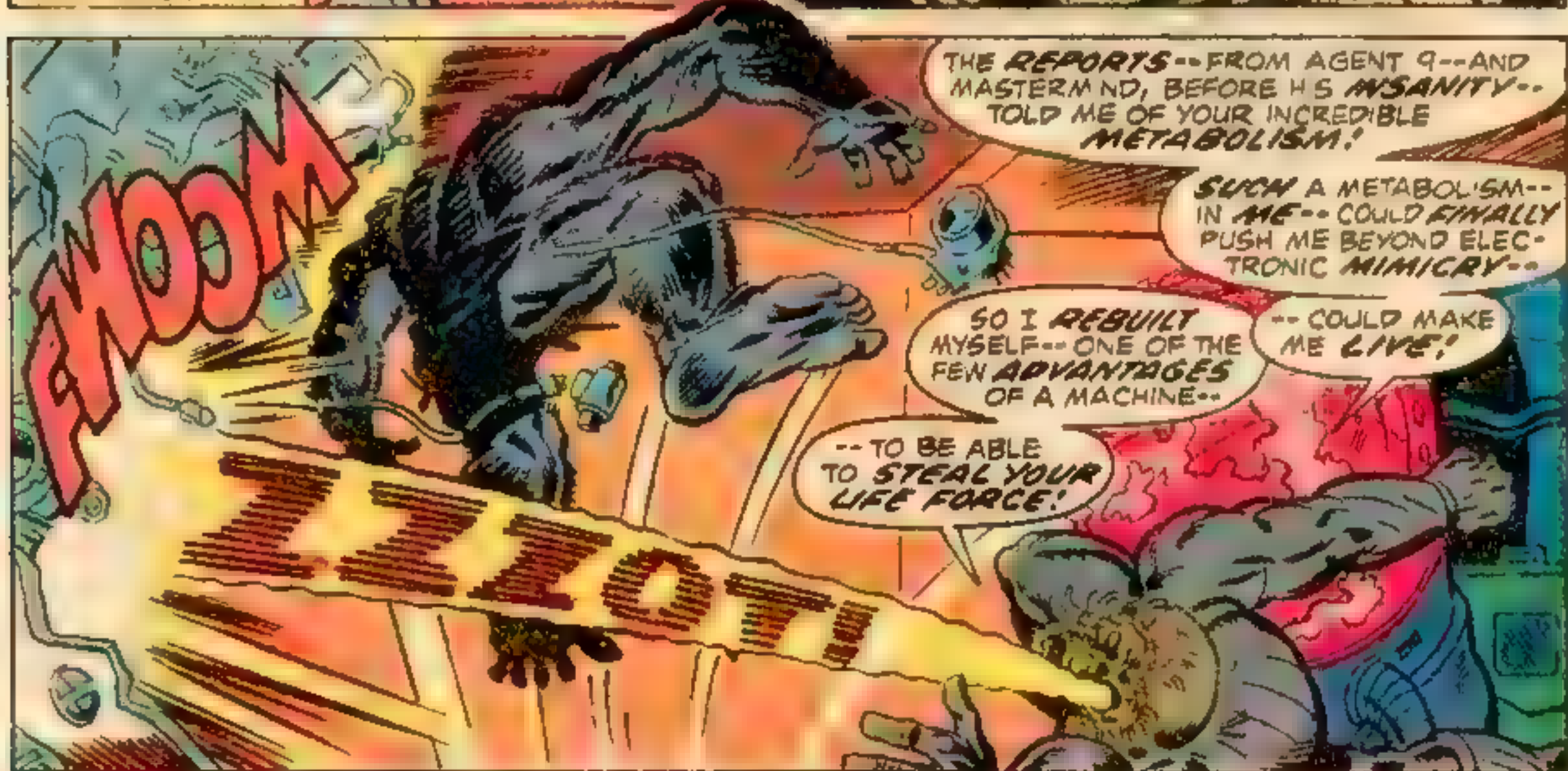
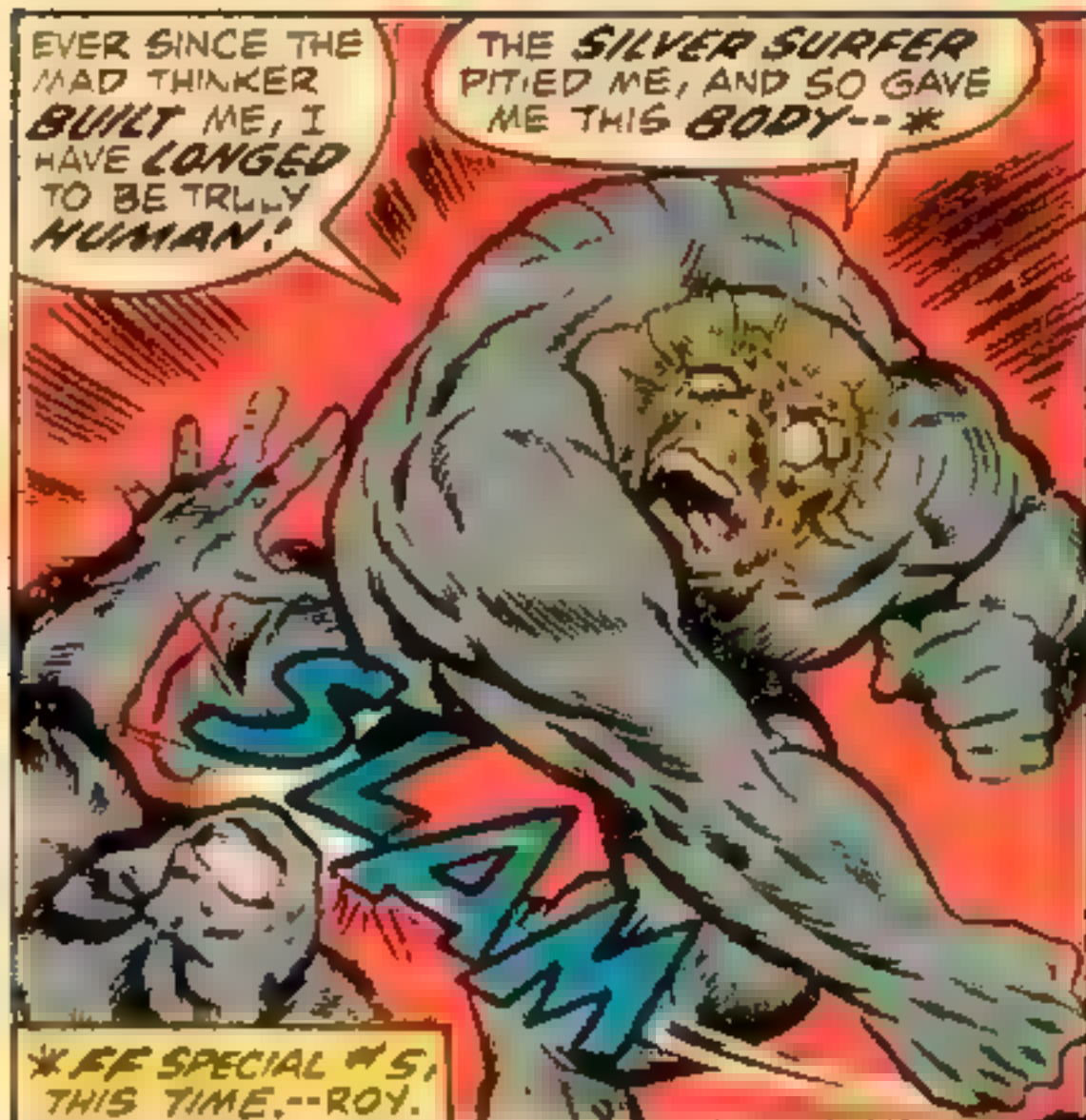
THE SNIDE REMARKS ARE FOR YOUR EARS, MARVELITE-- NOT HANK'S, FOR HE WOULD NOT BELIEVE. HE CANNOT SEE THE VIPER LURKING INSIDE THAT SOFT FORM HE CALLS BEAUTIFUL. LIKE ALL OF US, AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER, HE IS A MAN IN LOVE, "AND THEREFORE IS WING'D CUPID PAINTED BLIND." (SHAKESPEARE, A MIDSUMMER-NIGHT'S DREAM.)











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YOU WOULD  
DOOM ME  
TO THIS HALF-  
LIFE?

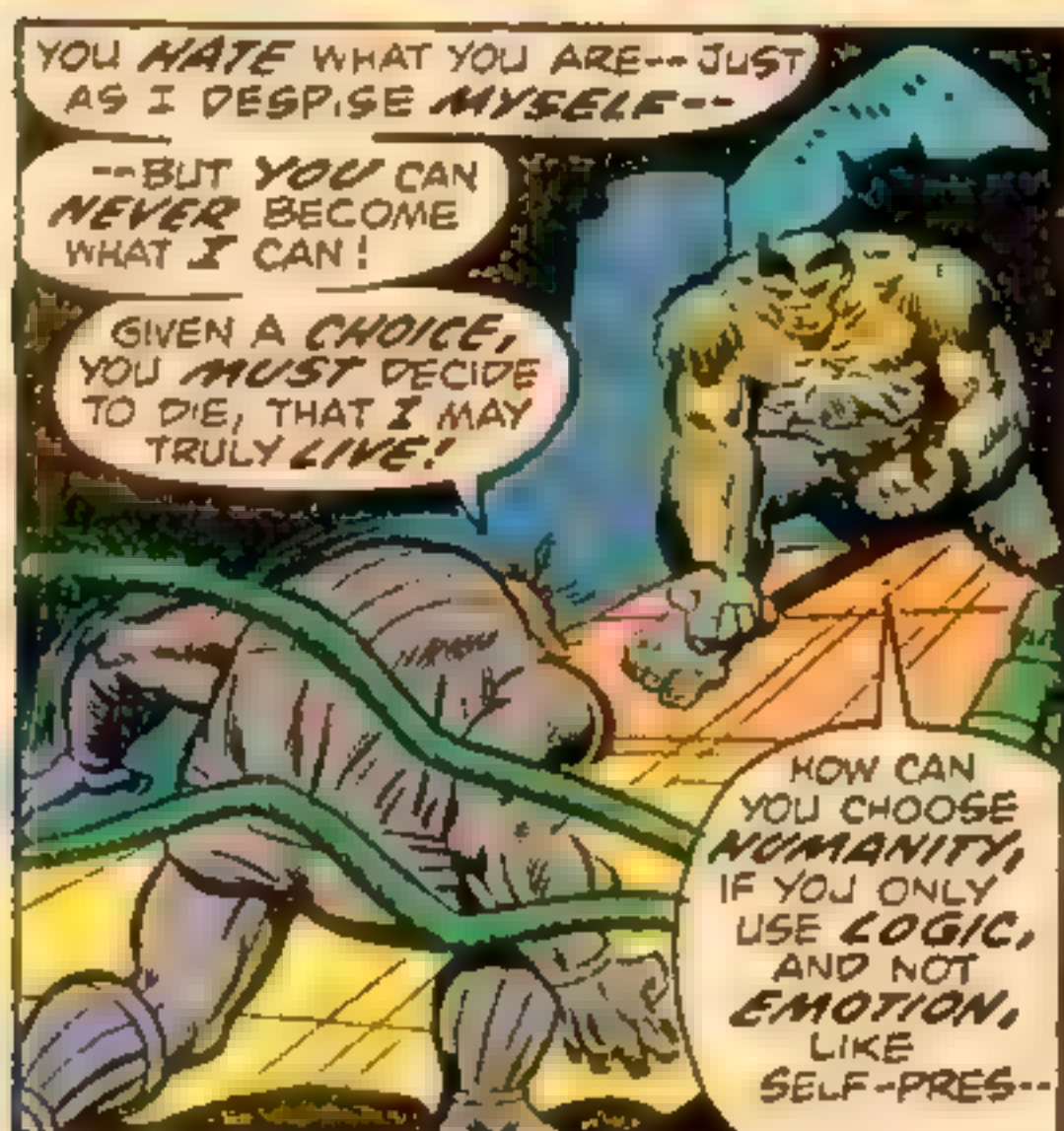
THAT IS NOT  
LOGICAL! I AM  
YOUR SUPERIOR  
IN ALL WAYS!



MY MIND  
IS COMPUTER-  
FAST!

MY BODY  
IS MASSIVE AND  
POWERFUL!

YOU ARE  
ONLY A  
BEAST!

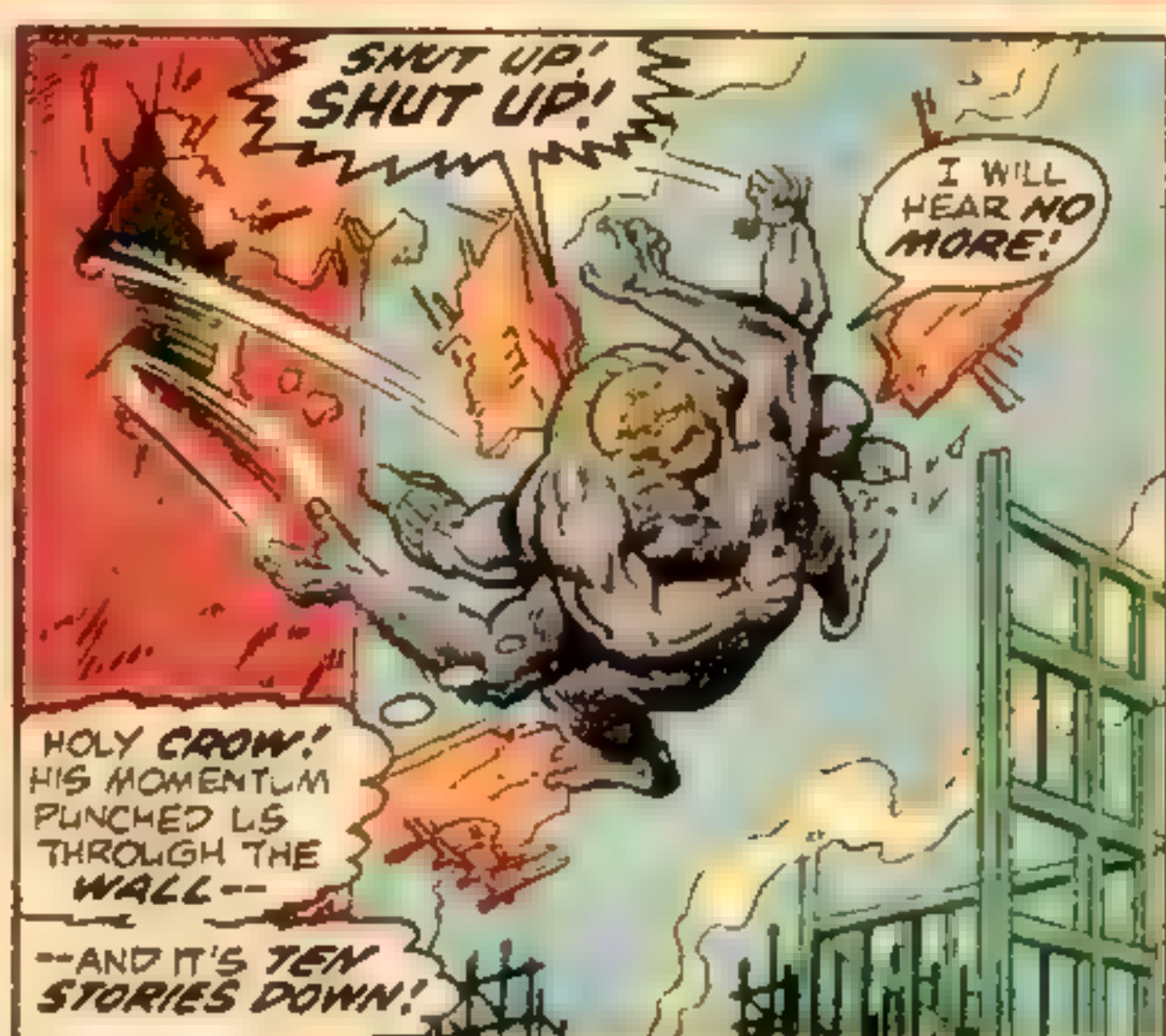


YOU HATE WHAT YOU ARE-- JUST  
AS I DESPISE MYSELF--

--BUT YOU CAN  
NEVER BECOME  
WHAT I CAN!

GIVEN A CHOICE,  
YOU MUST DECIDE  
TO DIE, THAT I MAY  
TRULY LIVE!

HOW CAN  
YOU CHOOSE  
HUMANITY,  
IF YOU ONLY  
USE LOGIC,  
AND NOT  
EMOTION,  
LIKE  
SELF-PRES--

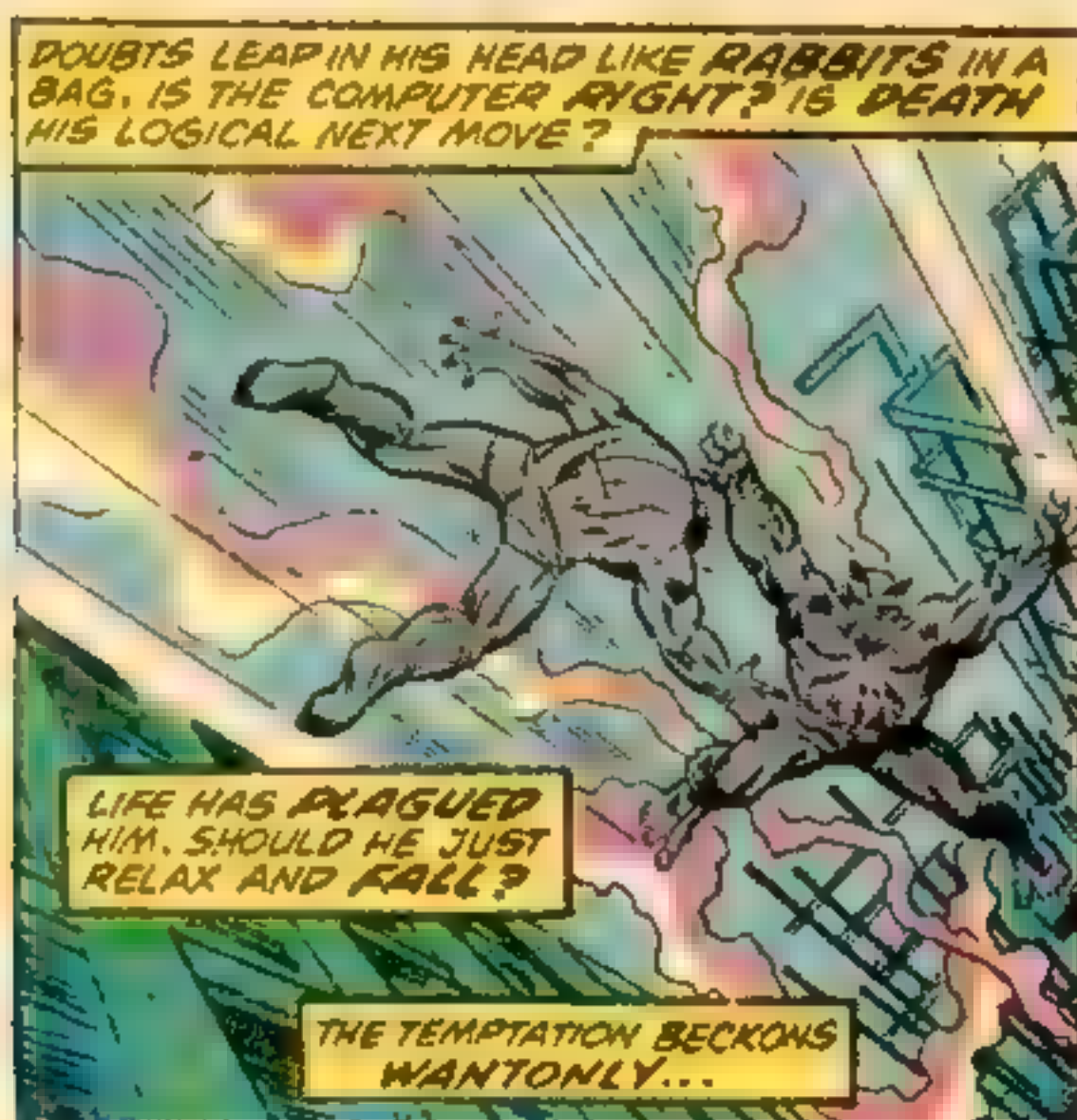


SHUT UP!  
SHUT UP!

I WILL  
HEAR NO  
MORE!

HOLY CROW!  
HIS MOMENTUM  
PUNCHED US  
THROUGH THE  
WALL--

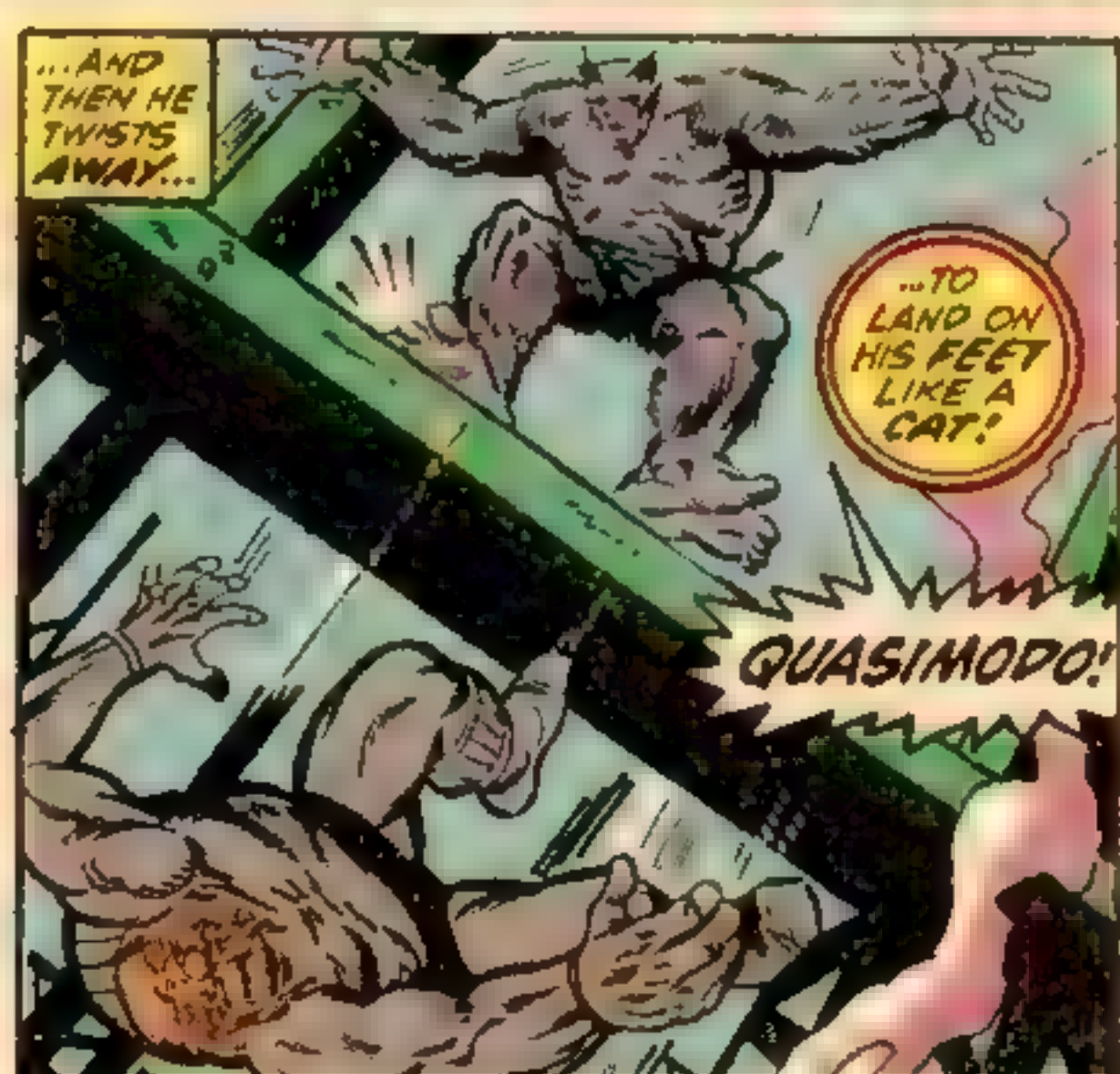
--AND IT'S TEN  
STORIES DOWN!



DOUBTS LEAP IN HIS HEAD LIKE RABBITS IN A  
BAG. IS THE COMPUTER RIGHT? IS DEATH  
HIS LOGICAL NEXT MOVE?

LIFE HAS PLAGUED  
HIM. SHOULD HE JUST  
RELAX AND FALL?

THE TEMPTATION BECKONS  
WANTONLY...

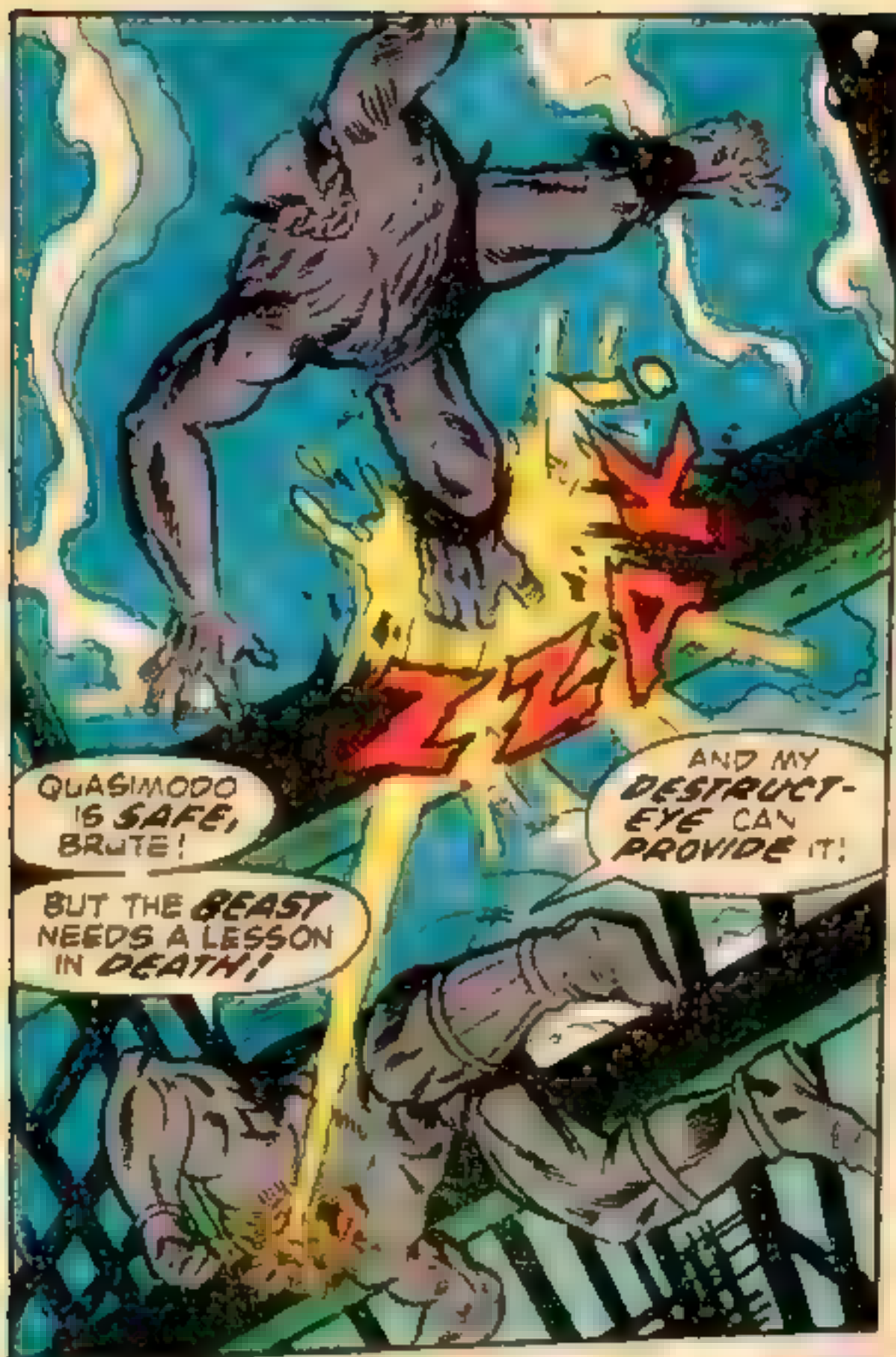


...AND  
THEN HE  
TWISTS  
AWAY...

...TO  
LAND ON  
HIS FEET  
LIKE A  
CAT!

QUASIMODO!

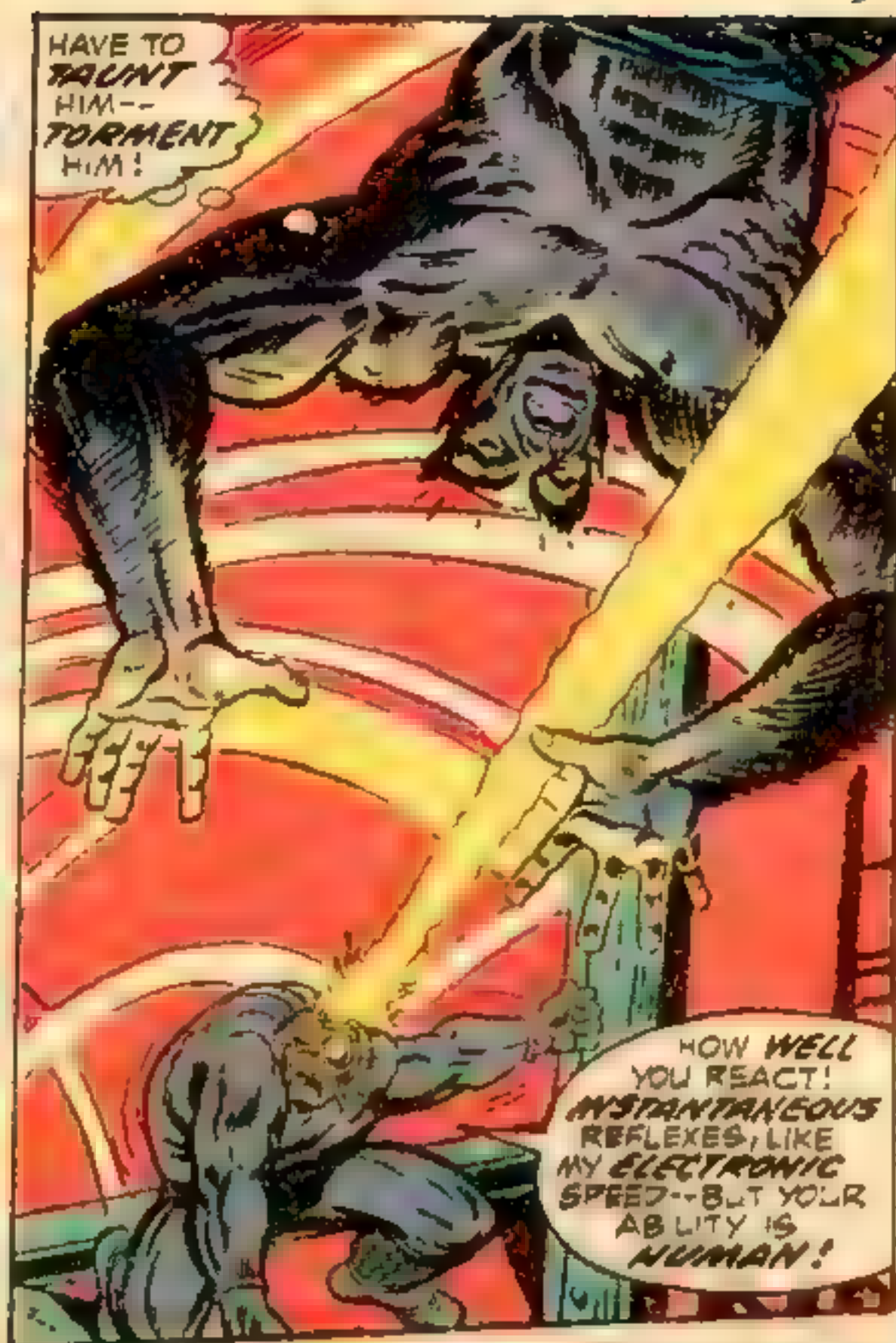




QUASIMODO IS SAFE, BRUTE!

BUT THE **BEAST** NEEDS A LESSON IN **DEATH**!

AND MY **DESTRUCT-EYE** CAN PROVIDE IT!



HAVE TO **TAUNT** HIM--  
**TORMENT** HIM!

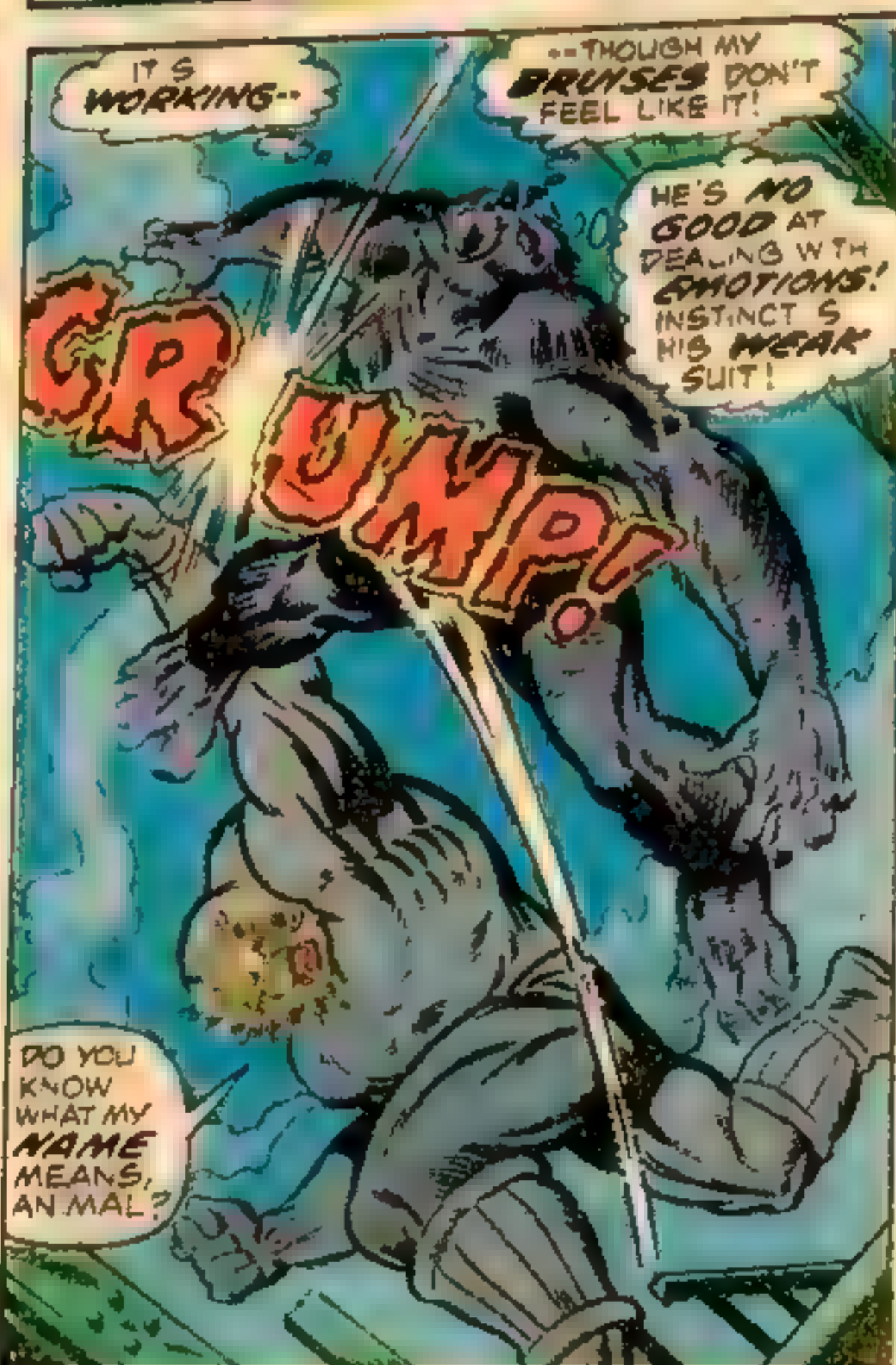
HOW WELL YOU REACT!  
**INSTANTANEOUS** REFLEXES, LIKE MY **ELECTRONIC** SPEED--BUT YOUR ABILITY IS **HUMAN**!



HIS STRENGTH IS **LOGIC**-- BUT IF I CAN MAKE HIM RELY ON **EMOTION**--!

YOU'RE THE **SECOND** METAL MAN TO CALL ME **HUMAN** TODAY, QUAS--

--BUT FROM **YOU** IT JUST DOESN'T HAVE THE SAME **RING**!



IT'S **WORKING**--

--THOUGH MY **BRUISES** DON'T FEEL LIKE IT!

HE'S **NO** GOOD AT DEALING WITH **EMOTIONS**! **INSTINCT** IS HIS **WEAK** SUIT!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT MY **NAME** MEANS, AN **MAL**?





IT MEANS  
QUASI-MOTIVATIONAL  
DESTRUCT-ORGAN!

AND ONE  
WAY OR ANOTHER--  
I DESTROY!

HIS EYE--  
THAT'S THE MOST  
IMMEDIATE  
THREAT!

HAVE TO  
SWING  
AROUND--



--AND  
AMBUSH  
HIM!

HEADS  
UP!  
UGLY!

**KWANG!**

THAT  
RIVETER--!



YOUR GEARS ARE  
SLIPPING, MACHINE!

YOU SAID  
YOURSELF  
THAT SHOOTING  
ME IS  
WORTHLESS!

I HAVE ONLY  
REPORTS ON  
THAT! I WANT  
FIRST-HAND  
DATA!

WELL,  
SCAN THIS--



MY ARM! YOU  
BLASTED MY ARM--  
AND IT  
PENETRATED!

ASTOUNDING!  
I WASN'T  
PREPARED  
FOR SUCH GOOD  
FORTUNE!

BUT I CAN ALWAYS  
REPROGRAM  
MYSELF--!



--AND I CAN ACT!  
WHILE YOUR POOR  
HUMAN BRAIN IS  
STILL GRAPPLING  
WITH THE PROBLEM!

MY POWERS!  
WHERE ARE MY  
POWERS!?





YOU OAF! YOU CONCENTRATE ON MATTERS NOT ESSENTIAL TO VICTORY--

--AND SO YOU LOSE!

NOW I WILL SUCK YOUR LIFE FROM YOU! I WILL ACHIEVE MY GOAL AT LAST!

I WILL BECOME HUMAN--



--AND YOU WILL BECOME --A CORPSE!



NO!! DUHHE I'M WEAKENING... DYING.... I CAN... FEEL IT!

BUT I'LL... NEVER GIVE UP, NEVER...



YOU... REALLY MEAN IT! YOU DO!



AGAINST ALL LOGIC-- EVEN AGAINST ALL HOPE--

--YOU FIGHT ON!



AND FURTHER, NOW THAT I TAKE THE TIME TO LOOK--

MY DESIRE FOR YOUR LIFE FORCE IS POINTLESS!

--I SEE YOU ARE INDEED BADLY WOUNDED!

I HAVE FOUGHT-- FOR NO REASON!





I HAVE MADE  
**ERRORS--MANY**  
ERRORS--AND  
THE **GREATEST**  
IS THIS!--

YOU REMAIN  
BASICALLY **HUMAN--**  
WHILE I AM BUT A  
MACHINE WITH  
DELUSIONS OF  
**GRANDEUR!**



ALL HOPE OF **HUMANITY**  
IS A FLICKERING OF  
**WORN TUBES!**

IT IS **I--**  
THE **VAMPIRE**  
MACHINE--  
THE **INHUMAN**  
MACHINE--

-- THE  
**MACHINE--**

-- THAT  
MUST  
**DIE!**



HE **KILLED**  
HIMSELF.

I KNOW I SHOULD  
SAY "IT KILLED  
**ITSELF**"--

-- BUT DESPITE HIS  
FINAL WORDS, THAT'S  
**NOT** THE WAY IT  
WAS.

WITH HIS  
**ILLOGIC, HIS**  
**ANGER,**  
HIS **HORROR--**

-- HE WAS  
CLOSER TO  
HUMANITY  
THAN HE  
**KNEW.**



-- BUT WHAT DID HE MEAN BY  
"**REPORTS--FROM AGENT 9**  
AND **MASTERMIND**"?

CAN THERE BE **MORE**  
TO ALL THIS THAN I'VE  
**SUSPECTED?**

AND IF THERE  
**IS-- CAN I**  
**FIGHT IT--**  
WITHOUT MY  
**POWERS--?**



**NEXT: AT LAST!**  
THE INCREDIBLE SECRET  
BEHIND ALL THE BEAST'S  
ENEMIES!

PLUS:  
**THE HIGH-FLYING ANGEL!**



# AMAZING



THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear People,

I was very happy to see the improvements made in AMAZING ADVENTURES between its first and second installments of the BEAST saga. Sutton seemed much more in tune with what he was doing (i.e., drawing heroes), and Ploog's inking, while making the character look a little too much like Mike's own werewolf, still rendered the Beast clearly and concisely, which is what I look for in comics.

In addition, while Gerry is a fine writer, it seemed as if he had no direction in the first book. Steve Englehart added all the missing elements, plus a few I hadn't thought of, in his debut issue, and so grabbed my flagging interest. I begin to see all sorts of possibilities in this book that make it unique, and if Steve realizes them, maybe we readers will stop thinking of THE BEAST as just a copy of more successful Marvel titles. I'm particularly pleased by Linda Donaldson's status as an agent provocateur inside the hero's headquarters, and Hank's overwhelming desire to regain his humanity through his own efforts.

Peace, group.

Carl Danning, 198 Grant  
Zionsville, Indiana

THE BEAST was never intended to be a copy of anybody, Carl—it's just that it's taken us a while to show that fully. In this ish, Hank begins to mutate a bit further, and next issue—well, you'll have to see it to believe it. That serum's causing more than one problem with Mr. McCoy's metabolism, as you'll soon see.

Dear Stan,

I have been thinking very carefully about your new BEAST since it first came out a couple of months ago. I read issue #11 and decided to wait till #12 came out to write to you. I must say that I was not disappointed in either issue, and to be truthful enjoyed them immensely. Your new Beast has a lot of potential, and if handled right could be another Spider-Man or F.F. But please put more background on your characters and more characterization in your stories. I was happy with the art in issue 11 but was not too overly pleased with it in issue 12. I don't think that Mike Ploog is a good inker on Tom's art. Mike is an excellent artist, but as an inker on Tom Sutton's art he makes it look hazy and foggy. To put it short, I don't think they go together as a team. How about trying Bill Everett or Tom Palmer as inkers? But if you do keep Mike as an inker, please, Stan, ask him to slow down on the last part of magazine he's drawing or inking. It looks as if he gets in too big a hurry in the last few pages of the mag and just goes over it in a hurry (I've noticed this in MARVEL SPOTLIGHT also when he draws Werewolf by Night. By the way, that's a great masterpiece, too.)

So please, Mike, if you will, slow down a bit, Okay? Okay! And now, Stan, if you can bear with me a while longer, I have some suggestions that I hope you will consider:

1—The Beast should be larger than any man (as he was in issue 11), but in issue 12, Iron Man was almost the same size as he was.

2—In past X-Men stories, the old Beast had the power to climb walls as Spider-Man did. Let him keep that same power.

3—He must (understand this), he must meet Jack Russell, the Werewolf by Night!

Well, those are my suggestions and opinions. Thank for listening.

Good Luck.

Clint Higginbotham, 8595 Randell Drive  
Denison Texas, 75020

Clint, meet Chris Manning, elsewhere on this page, for comments on characterization and inking in AA.

Looking at the rest of your letter, though—now there's something we can answer.

We don't figure the Beast is larger than any man—because he has to pass himself off as a real man from time to time. Hank McCoy was always a bulky son-of-a-gun, so his new-found muscles can be easily hidden inside a suit—but an extra foot or two would be a tad more difficult. Agreed?

Secondly, who said he can't climb walls any more? Not ye olde Bullpen.

And third—well, we answered that one last time. We don't want to mix the Werewolf and the Beast right now (but one thing's certain at Mighty Marvel—and that is that nothing's certain).

Dear Stan, Steve, Tom, and Mike,

Great stuff! After issue number 11 of AMAZING ADVENTURES, I figured you'd written off the title completely. To go from wretched Inhumans stories to that padded, weak origin of the new Beast was just too much. But now comes #12—and it is just great.

I don't know who Steve Englehart is—unless he's the guy who worked with Neal Adams on a Vampirella story a while back—but if this is his first script, he's got a great future ahead of him. All the loose ends from the previous ish were tied up—the cardboard figures were given life—a great gimmick (the Beast's need and method of mingling with humanity) was introduced—a dynamite battle with Iron Man ending in a truly unique manner was presented—and all this came about with some of the smoothest, most true-to-life dialogue to grace a Marvel mag in many a moon. Outasite!

Plus the artwork! Sutton has always seemed to me to be at his best when he's simplest, and Syd Shores struck me as being totally unsuitable (too realistic) for Tom. But Ploog gives it a mellow, smooth feeling that really turned me on.

Anyway, you surprised the heck out of me—but it looks like Marvel's got another winner on its hands. Good going, people.

Chris Manning, 2057 South Marine  
Eau Claire, Wisc.

And good reading to you, Chris. The response to the second BEAST story was overwhelmingly enthusiastic, and we're pleased as punch about it. As for who Stainless Steve is—he was the guy who worked with Neal on that story, and it was his comics coming-out party. But he's more into scripting these days, which is great for us, and you'll be seeing his writing in many a mag (plus the already viewed DEFENDERS and CAPTAIN AMERICA—you have already viewed them, haven't you?). And the Bullpen pages can tell you more.

As you've noticed, Mike Ploog only did that one ink job for AA, but what do you think of the other stalwarts who've applied their brushes to these pages since? We'll be looking to hear from you, tiger.

Dear Stan,

I just read THE BEAST #12 for the second time, and I gotta say how nicely handled the ending was. To project us, the readers, into Mastermind's illusion on pages 18 and 19 was classic material. The scripter played fair with us, so that the only point of view on those pages was the Beast's. Usually sequences like that bother me, but this one came off honestly and intelligently. Make Mine Marvel!

Al Leffingwell, 9630 Wendy Way  
Tucson, Arizona

Easily done, Al. We thought it was a groove, too. But now—see what Steve has in store for you in issues to come!